WHY PAY AN ARCHITECT?

SIR,—A practical builder has received by post, the inclosed. This is one method of getting sets of plans, with estimates, gratis. As one of your earliest subscribers, it is sent for your use.

July 20, 1846.

Copy.—Inserted in the *Brighton Herald*, and the *Sussex Express*.

"*To Builders.*

"It is intended to build a parsonage house on the Upper Dicker Common, *near Horse-bridge*. Any builders desirous of contracting for the same are requested to send in a plan and estimate (including the usual outbuildings), on or before the 5th of August next, to either the Rev. —— ——, or to the Rev. —— ——, from whom any further particulars may be obtained. The estimate not to exceed 850*l.*

No charge for plans or estimates, or for any other expenses will be allowed, and all communications must be prepaid.

A committee will decide upon the plans, and the approved will be adopted and laid before the Bounty Board for its sanction to proceed with the work."

Miscellanea.

THE SPEAKING AUTOMATON.—Numerous attempts have been made from time to time to produce an instrument capable of imitating, with any degree of accuracy, the tones of the human voice, but until now without success. The difficulty of the task can be rightly estimated only by those who have given attention to it. Great as it is, however, it has been overcome to an extent that could hardly have been expected, by the inventor of an automaton, now exhibiting in the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, Mr. Faber, a German, who, according to his own statement, has devoted more than twenty-five years to its construction. By means of bellows, pipes, keys, and stops, it is made to articulate the letters of the alphabet, the numbers, and any sentences the operator pleases. It is unquestionably a great advance on all former attempts in the same direction, and deserves to be visited by all who are in search of novelty, interested in acoustical science, or willing to reward ingenuity and skill.

DESTRUCTION OF BARRACKS AT LOODIANAH.—On the 21st of May, a violent storm of wind destroyed the whole of the barracks of Her Majesty's 50th foot, when eighty-four persons were killed, and 135 wounded. They were ill-built temporary structures, not fitted for their position.

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

[We are compelled, by the interference of the Stamp Office, to omit the names of the parties to whom tenders, &c. are to be addressed. For the convenience of our readers, however, they are entered in a book, and may be seen on application at the office of "The Builder," 2, York-street, Covent Garden.]

For the execution of the town drainage of Walsall.

For laying with Yorkshire paving-stone the boys' school-room, the shoemakers' workshop, and an adjoining passage to the Cambridge Union Workhouse.

For ceiling the boys' and girls' school-rooms in the Cambridge Union Workhouse.

For the whole of the iron-work, &c., necessary in the construction and erection of the high level bridge at Newcastle, on the line of the Newcastle and Berwick Railway.

For the execution of all the works necessary for the building of the high level bridge over the Tyne, on the line of the Newcastle and Berwick Railway (extension of time).

For the construction of the viaducts through Newcastle and Gateshead (iron work excepted), on the line of the Newcastle and Berwick Railway (extension of time).

For a slate planing-machine on the most approved principle, for a quarry in North Wales (promptly).

For the construction of a warehouse for the Grand Junction Railway Company, at Liverpool.

For the purchase of all the breese made on the works of the Commercial Gas Light and Coke Company at Stepney, for twelve months, from August 25.

For the rebuilding of the parish church of Rancorn.

For the execution of the whole or any part or parts of the various works involved in the rebuilding of the parish church of Rancorn.

For the disposal of a good business in the plumbing, painting, and glazing line, situated at the west end of London.

For the masons' work required in the erection of a boundary wall to the West Derby Union Workhouse.

For the ironmongers' work required in the erection of a boundary wall to the West Derby Union Workhouse.

For the sale of a three-horse power steam-engine, with cistern and boiler complete; also two lathes, two copper tanks, &c.

For the erection of a fever hospital, in connection with the Bandon Union Workhouse, County of Cork, Ireland.

For building certain additions to the fever hospital attached to the Kantark Union Workhouse, County of Cork.

For the disposal of an ironmonger's business in town.

For lighting the parish of Woodbridge, in the County of Suffolk, with gas.

For the erection of a rod rolling mill at Middlewood Works, Sheffield.

For all or any of the works required to be done in the erection of the National Schools at Rotherham.

For the erection of a farmhouse (oak, larch, and stone, furnished) in the county of Radnor.

For the disposal of a jobbing smiths' and general ironmongers' business, established for eighty years in Swindon, to which is added an oil, colour, and glass business.

For the works of the Royal Isle of Wight Infirmary.

For the necessary works and buildings for the station at Crediton, on the Exeter and Crediton Railway.

For the execution of the first division of that portion of the Hawick branch of the North British Railway, which commences near Fala-hill Inn, and terminates near Torwoodlee, a length in all of about 14 miles.

For the execution of the second division of that portion of the Hawick branch of the North British Railway which commences near Fala-hill Inn, and terminates near Torwoodlee, a length in all of about 14 miles.

For the execution of the first division of that portion of the Hawick branch of the North British Railway, which commences near the Jedburgh-road and terminates at Hawick, a length in all of about 9¼ miles.

For the execution of the second division of that portion of the Hawick branch of the North British Railway which commences near the Jedburgh-road and terminates at Hawick, a length in all of about 9¼ miles.

For the disposal of the goodwill of the business of an architect and civil engineer at Glasgow, established and successfully carried on for ten years and upwards.

For the erection of considerable additions to a farm-steading in the upper Ward of Lanarkshire.

For the supply of a large quantity of cast-iron rain-water pipes, deliverable in the Thames at London.

For the execution of three portions of the works on the Dunfermline branch of the Edinburgh and Northern Railway.

For the letting, to a lime, cement, and brick merchant, of an extensive wharf and premises in Camden Town, where a large trade in lime and cement has been carried on for many years.

For laying down about 756 superficial feet of flooring in the Okehampton Union Workhouse, either of granite or Yorkshire stone, 3 inch squared, or slate 3 inches squared.

For the disposal of a mahogany shop front at Whitehall, with shutters, bar, and private door.

COMPETITION.

Plans are wanted for a new church to be built near Penmaenmawr, in the parish of Betws, Montgomeryshire.

APPROACHING SALES OF WOOD, &c.

BY AUCTION.

At Liverpool: an entire cargo of Honduras mahogany.

At Belvoir Castle (Nottingham): 1,500 oak poles.

At Hassle, Sandy, Bedfordshire: a large fall of timber trees of large growth, chiefly elm, oak, chestnut, and walnut.

At Lower Halliford, Middlesex, near Walton Bridge: the building materials of a family mansion.

At Maldon: a large quantity of oak and elm timber trees.

At Oatlands Park, Weybridge, Surrey: the building materials of the mansion.

At Tottenham: a vein of the finest malm brick earth, sufficient to produce 30,000,000 bricks.

At St. Peter's Wharf, Ipswich: an assortment of paints, oils, turpentines, &c.

At Osborne-street, Hull: the building materials of two dwelling houses.

At Covent Garden: a stock of paper-hangings.

At Beeralston, near Tavistock: thirty fathoms of railroad iron, a large quantity of new and old iron and timber, smiths' and carpenters' tools, ladders, pumps, &c., &c.

At the Chunk Iron Works, Birmingham: the goodwill, stock, machinery, and fixtures.

At Garraway's Coffee House, the lease of builder's premises in Broad's Court, Trinity-lane, City.

At No. 31, corner of the New-road and Gower-street: a stock of finely-finished Italian and French marble chimney-pieces, tablets, &c., &c.

At No. 1, Leonard-street, Curtain-road, Shoreditch: the remaining stock of a bankrupt timber and mahogany merchant.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"*A Subscriber.*" If the shed did not exceed 8 feet in height, and half a square in area (say 10 feet by 5 feet), and was detached from any other building, and from ground not in the same occupation, to an extent equal at least to its own height from the ground, then it might be of timber. If larger, it must be 30 feet from ground not in the same occupation, and 4 feet from public way.

"*R.*" Will our correspondent favour us with an address, in confidence, to which we may write.

"*J. K.*" We cannot speak positively without seeing the drawings.

"*A Bricklayer.*" Send your remarks to the patentee.

"*E. O. R.*" Basement, 18 inches; ground-floor and one-pair floor, 14 inches.

"*Subscriber from the beginning.*" You must employ a competent person to do it.

"*Crusoe.*" We cannot expect all our readers to be pleased with every paper that appears in our columns. The article in question, although open to objections, has much wisdom in it, and cannot be read, in a proper spirit, without advantage.

"*M.*" will perhaps read the preceding.

"*W. H.*" If the work be done in accordance with the specification, and the committee wish it altered, it should be paid for. The question of "indent" can best be decided by a competent person on the spot.

"*O. R. L.*" Pressure of occupations has prevented us from complying. The request shall not be lost sight of.

"*R. W. S.*" We regret that we cannot exactly understand his statement of the case.

Next week.—"Rochester Cathedral." "Steinitz."

Received.—"R. Telford." Patent office, Dublin; "J. A." Epsom; "Rev. J. W. R." "Airlie." "J. W." Glasgow; "J. P." "The Messiah," in Vocal Score; No. 1. (Novello, Dean-street, Soho.) A wonderfully cheap edition of an immortal work.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

COLOURED PHOTOGRAPHIC PORTRAITS, by Mr. BEARD (sole Patentee of the Daguerreotype), are taken Daily from Nine to Six, at 86, King William-street, City (where application for Revenue should be made), 34, Parliament-street, Westminster, and the Royal Polytechnic Institution, Regent-street.

"The colour is uniform, and so transparent as not to affect the likeness in any degree."—Builder, April 18, 1846.

TO CIVIL ENGINEERS, SURVEYORS &c.

HENRY POPE, Wholesale Stationer, desires to return his best thanks to the Profession for their support, which has secured to him on large a sale of his mounted drawing papers, and from which he has made arrangements to keep a large stock always on hand, as well as tracing, drawing-papers, and every description of general stationery, which may be had at the wholesale prices.

N.B. Maker of the Metallic, Levelling, and Surveying Field Books, with Patent Pencil. 22, Budge-row, Watling-street, City.

TO BUILDERS, PAINTERS, DECORATORS, AND OTHERS.

MESSRS. WOOD AND COMPANY, Grainers and Writers to the Trade only, by contract, measure, or otherwise.

62, Waterloo Bridge-road. All letters post paid.

N.B. Workmen sent to any part of the kingdom.

*** An Apprentice wanted.

TO BUILDERS, PAINTERS, &c.

C. WILLIAMS, 13, Palace-row, New-road, Imitator of Woods and Marbles, respectfully informs the Building Trade generally, that for the last five years he has been in the employ of Mr. W. HAMMOND, and begs now to solicit the favour of their patronage, trusting that by strict attention and moderate terms he shall secure their future favours.

N.B. Country orders attended to with punctuality.

ARCHITECTURAL ENRICHMENTS.—SIELEFELD'S improved PAPIER MACHE, which has been almost universally adopted for architectural decorations, has been patronised by her Majesty, by the Hon. Commissioners of Board of Works, by the highest of the Nobility and Gentry, and by the most eminent architects of the day. It has been used at the Royal Palaces, at the present House of Lords, at Drayton Manor, the new Conservative Club House, &c., also at the British Museum, and Pantheon Bazaar, where it has been extensively used for some years, and an inspection will sufficiently establish its superiority over every other kind of composition, both for beauty and durability. Designs prepared for the decoration of ceilings, panelling of walls, &c. A volume of enrichments, containing more than 1,000 designs of the papier mache ornaments with a tariff of prices, price 1l. Works, 15, Wellington-street, North, Strand.

PIMLICO MARBLE AND STONE WORKS, BELGRAVE WHARF, PIMLICO-ROAD.

SAMUEL CUNDY begs to inform Architects, &c., that every description of Stone, Marble, and Granite work is executed at the cheapest possible rate.

Estimates given for Mason's Work in all its branches. Gothic Work, Tombs, Monuments, &c.

MARBLE WORK for Halls, Dairies, Tables, Columns, Vases, at most reasonable prices.

A large collection of Designs for Mural and other Monuments.

CHIMNEY PIECES from Twelve Shillings upwards.

Depôt for CAEN STONE, &c.

CAEN STONE.

TUCKWELL'S Norway Sufferance Wharf, Greenwich.—Architects and Stone Merchants are informed, that this stone may be procured at the above Wharf in any quantity, in blocks up to 12 tons. The stone, which is exclusively the product of the Allemagne Quarries, and of the very finest quality, is consigned solely to W. TUCKWELL, who is prepared to execute orders to any extent, having a Large Stock always on the Wharf.—Orders received by, and further information with samples may be obtained of Mr. R. A. WITHALL, Surveyor, 30, Champside, and of Mr. W. TUCKWELL, at the Wharf.

N.B. Cargoes shipped direct to any Port.

CHEAP PAN FOR WATER CLOSETS, With Trap, in one Piece.

DOULTON and WATTS, Lambeth Pottery, London, Manufacturers of the above in superior glazed STONE WARE, price 7s. 6d. each. They are of the most durable ware, and are recommended in preference to iron on account of their cleanliness and cheapness. If preferred, they can be had in two parts, the pan at 4s. 6d., and the Trap at 3s. 6d. N.B. Manufacturers of RAIN WATER PIPING for houses.

TO ARCHITECTS, SURVEYORS, BUILDERS, AND PLUMBERS.

BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

J. W. WILKINS'S SILENT WATER-CLOSET.—The peculiar property belonging to this Water-closet is, that it is "Silent," and may be set in any part of the house without communicating sound to any of the surrounding apartments, even if the mechanism is no more than a curtain. The working apparatus may be viewed daily from nine in the morning till six in the evening, at 26, Gower-place, University College, London.

N.B. An active Plumber is Wanted as a Partner; or the Patent would be sold.

HAMMERSMITH LEAD WORKS, AND AT READING, BERKS.

C. H. and F. CLARK, Manufacturers of PIPE, PUMP, and SHEET LEAD, beg to inform Plumbers, Builders, and others, they can be supplied at the following prices for net cash:—

Sheet Lead	19s. 6d.	per cwt.
Pipe	19 6	"
Genuine White Lead	23 6	"
Seconds ditto	23 6	"
Thirds ditto	21 6	"
Sheet Glass, 12 oz.	9d	per foot.
Ditto 16 oz.	1d	"

Crate of Crown Glass, 16 tables, 2l. 18s.

Stained, and every description of fancy Glass, at manufacturer's prices. Lift Pumps, Closet, and all kinds of Oils, Colours, Varnishes, &c., and brass work. All articles sold in this establishment warranted of very best quality. Credit given upon satisfactory references.

Old lead bought or exchanged.

June 19th.